

**GROUNDED MOLDING TOOL FOR
MANUFACTURE OF OPTICAL COMPONENTS**

ABSTRACT

In one embodiment, the invention is directed to an injection molding tool that has improved grounding. The injection molding process creates significant amounts of static electricity in the molten thermoplastic. This static electricity can be more adequately dissipated from the system through the addition of one or more paths to ground. In this manner, a significant reduction in charge passing between the stamper and the mirror block can be achieved. By reducing or eliminating the amount of charge passing between the stamper and the mirror block, erosion of the mirror block can be reduced or avoided.